

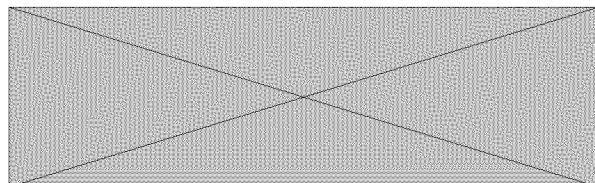
**To:** Peterson, Cynthia[Peterson.Cynthia@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Hartman - DNR, Todd[todd.hartman@state.co.us]; Martha Rudolph - CDPHE[martha.rudolph@state.co.us]; David Kurz - CDPHE[David.Kurz@state.co.us]; gary.baughman@state.co.us[gary.baughman@state.co.us]; patrick pfaltzgraff[patrick.j.pfaltzgraff@state.co.us]; Freddy Arck - CDPHE[freddy.arck@state.co.us]; Salley - CDPHE, Mark[mark.salley@state.co.us]; Smith, Warren[warren.smith@state.co.us]  
**From:** Natterman - CDPHE, Jeannine  
**Sent:** Wed 8/5/2015 7:57:34 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Discharge into Las Animas

Cynthia -

You may be interested in this report since you are EPA's CIC for the Upper Animas site.

Jeannine

Jeannine Natterman  
Public Involvement Coordinator



P 303-692-3303 | C 303-921-2208 | Toll Free 888-569-1831 ext 3303  
Hazardous Materials and Waste Management  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
Denver, CO 80246  
[jeannine.natterman@state.co.us](mailto:jeannine.natterman@state.co.us)

On Wed, Aug 5, 2015 at 1:54 PM, Salley - CDPHE, Mark <[mark.salley@state.co.us](mailto:mark.salley@state.co.us)> wrote:

Thanks Todd for the additional update.

I tried to reach Rich Mylott (for those who don't know, the PIO at EPA), left voice mail on his desk and cell phones suggesting that both DNR and CDPHE think EPA is the likely lead on this.

I've had no media calls on this.

Mark

On Wed, Aug 5, 2015 at 1:48 PM, Hartman - DNR, Todd <[todd.hartman@state.co.us](mailto:todd.hartman@state.co.us)> wrote:

additional ...

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Brannon - DNR, Ginny** <[ginny.brannon@state.co.us](mailto:ginny.brannon@state.co.us)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 5, 2015 at 1:38 PM  
Subject: Re: Discharge into Las Animas  
To: Mike King - DNR <[mike.king@state.co.us](mailto:mike.king@state.co.us)>, Robert Randall - DNR  
<[robert.randall@state.co.us](mailto:robert.randall@state.co.us)>, Todd Hartman - DNR <[todd.hartman@state.co.us](mailto:todd.hartman@state.co.us)>

Some points of clarification after consulting with Tony and, since they were not agreeing on all points, then Tony and Bruce together, including our involvement:

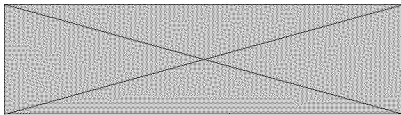
It is not a superfund site, but it is subject to a CERCLA removal action by EPA, so EPA jurisdiction.

We had it permitted in the 1980's, the permit was later forfeited and the AML program redirected surface flows and closed the portals.

As Bruce mentioned, Alan Sorenson was working as an adviser and technical consultant to EPA, primarily on the Red and Bonita, but also on the Gold King although he was not with the EPA contractors this morning.

Bruce and Tony agree that the pressure would have blown at some point no matter what.

Ginny Brannon  
Division Director



P 303.866.3567 x 8135 | F 303.832.8106  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203  
[Ginny.Brannon@state.co.us](mailto:Ginny.Brannon@state.co.us) | <http://mining.state.co.us>

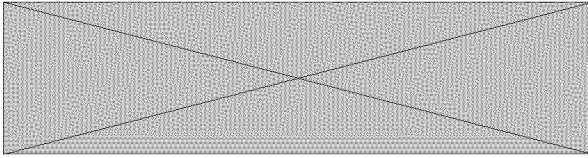
On Wed, Aug 5, 2015 at 12:47 PM, Brannon - DNR, Ginny  
<[ginny.brannon@state.co.us](mailto:ginny.brannon@state.co.us)> wrote:

EPA's response team was working on rehabilitating a portal at the Gold King Mine near Silverton this morning and a plug blew that discharged hundreds of thousands of gallons water contaminated with heavy metals and debris, the volume of which is approximately 20 to 30 feet deep, into Upper Cement Creek. The heavy metals include iron, zinc and copper. We estimate the water will hit the confluence with Las Animas in the next 10-15 minutes and flow through Silverton.

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Mark Salley

Communications Director



office: 303.692-2013 | cell: 303.921-8594